

Aquinnah Board of Selectmen
Minutes of Meeting 2/18/2014
Aquinnah Town Hall Selectmen's Mtg Room

Members present: Beverly Wright, Chairman*; Jim Newman, Spencer Booker.

Also present: Adam Wilson, Town Administrator; Richard Skidmore, June Manning, Angela Cywinski, Margie Spitz, Kathy Newman, Gazette Reporter Remy Tumin, Fire Chief Simon Bollin, DPW Director Jay Smalley

*On speaker phone.

The meeting began at 5:32 pm.

-1st on the agenda under old business was a review of minutes from 2/04.

Spencer made a motion to accept the minutes from February 4th, 2014 Beverly seconded.

The Board voted 3 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.

-Next on the agenda under Old Business was a further review of the funds sent by ComCast to the town for cable related purposes. Richard gave a brief review regarding the situation of reimbursement for services not rendered by Adelphia 1st and then ComCast in the prior year's contracts. The money given to the town (\$3K+) was to be used only for cable services. Richard said there had been a consensual agreement that the funds would just go to MVTV since they are the only cable related service the Town has.

-Jim brought up the fact that the Board never formally voted to do this. He thought that there was a better use of the funds for the Town if the library could purchase equipment and tie it in with programming and utilizing the free cable Comcast provides to all towns' libraries and schools on the island.

The board took the situation under further advisement and talk to the Library Director to see if there can be any utilization of the funds for cable related activities and purposes. There was consensus that if the money is utilized for the library and there is funds leftover, the remaining amount would go to MVTV.

-1st on the agenda under new business was a request from the Aquinnah Cultural Council for the Artisan's Festival to be held Saturday, July 26th, 2014.

Spencer made a motion to grant approval for the Native American Artists' festival at the Aquinnah Circle July 24th, 2014. Beverly seconded.

The Board voted 3 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.

-Next on the agenda was a request from UMass Dartmouth to extend the deadline for completion of the Mass Estuaries Project for Menemsha and Squibnocket ponds until December 31st, 2014. Adam explained that it was supposed to be completed last December but hasn't happened so the contract has to be extended.

Spencer made a motion to grant approval of the extension of the Mass Estuaries Project conducted by UMass-Dartmouth until December 31st, 2014. Beverly seconded.

The Board voted 3 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.

-Next on the agenda was the re-appointment of Simon Bollin as fire chief until June 30th, 2014. Simon explained his current contract has expired and needed an appointment until such a time when a new contract could be recommended to the Board.

Spencer made a motion to re-appoint Simon Bollin as the Aquinnah's Fire Chief until June 30th, 2014. Beverly seconded.

The Board voted 3 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.

-Next on the agenda was a discussion about CPC projects that have had appropriated town funds but have made no progress in either starting or having a scheduled completion date. Beverly agreed that if within a certain amount of town nothing happens, the funds should go back into the CPC reserve fund. Adam wondered if a project is voted on to go forward and it doesn't, there needs to be a rescinding vote at town meeting to put the funds back into reserves. Beverly thought all CPC projects should have at least estimated dates for completion. There was

discussion about the CPC committee needs to keep track of how projects are coming along. Board members talked about what mechanism is needed to get nonstarter projects of 2 years or more properly rescinded.

Adam to follow up talking with Derrill Bazy on how to get unstarted project funds back into the reserve fund.

-In Selectmen's Other Business, Jay asked the board to vote to exceed the line budget item for snow removal/sanding since this year's winter storms has put plowing and sanding expenses way over what had been budgeted.

Beverly made a motion to allow the Highway Snow/Ice Removal expenditures to go beyond the budgeted line item of \$10,759.00. Spencer seconded.

The Board voted 3 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.

-Jay reported that he has entered the town into a service contract for maintenance of the heating system in the Police Building.

-Simon reported that he's developed a junior firefighting program manual for 15 – 18 year olds, He said it is the same document used by Edgartown and has been vetted by counsel. There was discussion about its implementation and advertising with the Tribe as well as throughout the community.

By consensus the Board approved the program and granted permission to Simon to start promoting it in the Aquinnah Community.

-Simon reported that the results from the RFP to repair the pumper truck got two bids and Bulldog's bid was the lowest.

-In the Town Administrator's report, Adam asked Beverly to report on the summer concert plans the Lighthouse Fundraising committee has to bring Roseanne Cash to Flatbread Co. July 1st. Adam said the committee is recommending the concert for BOS approval.

Spencer made a motion to approve the Gay Head Lighthouse Committee's recommendation to promote and sponsor a fundraising concert event with Roseanne Cash July 1st, 2014 at the Flatbread Co. venue in Edgartown. Beverly seconded.

The Board voted 3 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.

Jim signed the letter of intent.

-Simon reported that Chilmark has lent its tanker to Aquinnah while the town's is off island for repair.

There was a vote to have a short recess until the Town Accountant finalists arrived at Town Hall.

-Coming back from recess, Kimberly Brown and Bill Rowe were introduced as the two finalists for the soon to be vacant Town Accountant's position. Questions were asked by all three Selectpersons as well as members of the audience. Various topics covering free cash reporting, monthly reconciliation, use of the town's software accounting program VADAR and getting the tax recap done were discussed. Travel to and from the island was also discussed as well as the hours each of them would physically be present in Town Hall.

-Both finalists were thanked for their time and making their way over to the island for the interviews.

-Jim asked if there was anything else to discuss. Hearing none...

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn.

The Board voted 3 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.

The meeting ended at 7:00 pm.